

KENTUCKY PERIODIC WATERFOWL INVENTORY

Conducted 5 January 2015

Lower Ohio River & Western Coalfield

Flown by Thomas Young

	Dabblers	Divers	Total Ducks	Canada geese	White-fronted geese	Snows/Blues	Coots	Eagles
Ohio R. (Owensboro - Green River)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Ohio R. (Green River - Henderson)	0	15	15	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio R. (Henderson - Sloughs WMA)	0	0	0	0	0	2500	0	1
Ohio R. (Sloughs WMA - Diamond Island)	11995	200	12195	1050	850	0	100	3
Ohio R. (Sauerheber Refuge - Uniontown & GPPL & JHHC)	20	0	20	0	0	15000	0	3
Ohio R. (Uniontown - Shawneetown)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Ohio R. (Shawneetown - Tradewater R.)	15	0	15	0	0	0	0	2
Ohio R. (Tradewater R. - E. end of Hurricane Isl.)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Ohio R. (E. end of Hurrican Isl. - Golconda)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hovey Lake WMA in Indiana	240	25	265	0	0	0	0	0
Pond River - White City WMA	137	50	187	80	0	0	350	1
Tradewater River	1516	0	1516	0	0	0	0	1
Peabody Coal Property	2968	880	3848	625	0	3	150	1
Totals	16891	1170	18061	1755	850	17503	600	17
	Dabblers	Divers	Total Ducks	Canada geese	White-fronted	Snows/Blues	Coots	Eagles

An extreme cold front pushed through region 3 days prior to survey with lows in the negative 5-10 degree range 2-3 nights in a row.

All moist soil units were ice except a couple holes kept open by waterfowl on Hovey and Slough's Refuge.

Western Kentucky - Purchase Region

Flown by Pat Hahs

	Dabblers	Divers	Total Ducks	Canada geese	White-fronted geese	Snows / Blues	Coots	Eagles
Bayou De Chien	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Obion Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mississippi River	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mayfield Creek	250	0	250	0	0	0	0	0
Reelfoot NWR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ballard	68700	1800	70500	15	4400	4000	0	0
Boatwright WMA	10025	3000	13025	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio R. (Wickliffe - Paducah)	2125	20	2145	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio R. (Paducah - Golconda)	1130	0	1130	0	0	0	0	0
Barkley Lake (North of 68)	135	1470	1605	90	0	0	0	0
Barkley Lake (South of 68)	0	20	20	0	0	0	0	0
Duck Island	475	0	475	200	0	0	0	0
Kentucky Lake	170	890	1060	30	0	0	6000	0
Kaler Bottoms	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Birdsville Island	5665	525	6190	0	0	0	0	0
Doug Travis WMA	900	150	1050	0	0	0	0	0
Obion Creek (Travis Slough tract)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Obion Creek (L.E. Schaaf tract)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	89575	7875	97450	335	4400	4000	6000	0
	Dabblers	Divers	Total Ducks	Canada geese	White-fronted	Snows / Blues	Coots	Eagles

Temperatures on the survey day were generally seasonable. Recent weather has been seasonable or slightly above normal. A major arctic front was scheduled to pass through within 24 hours of this survey.

No significant ice was observed. Ice was only present in the most isolated spots out of the wind and largely shaded.

Very little species diversity was noted in the puddle ducks observed. It was > 99% mallards with a few green-winged teal and gadwall observed. Significant numbers of gadwall were noticeably absent where they are generally common (KY & Barkley lake).

Water conditions were considered on the low side of normal. We have received below average rainfall in November. Few rainfall events resulted in much run-off, so much of the impounded water has been pumped. No big river flooding has occurred so far this season.

Hunting activity was generally low. Reports of poor hunting even near large waterfowl populations have been common for several weeks.

Rough River – Yellowbank

Flown by Thomas Young

	Dabblers	Divers	Total Ducks	Canada geese	White-fronted geese	Snows/Blues	Coots	Eagles
Rough River	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
Ohio R. (Brandenburg to Owensboro)	647	0	647	0	0	0	0	0
Yellowbank WMA	95	0	95	150	0	0	0	0
								3
	742	0	742	154	0	0	0	0
	Dabblers	Divers	Total Ducks	Canada geese	White-fronted	Snows/Blues	Coots	Eagles

Central and Eastern Kentucky

Flown by Terri Estes & Wes Little

	Dabblers	Divers	Total Ducks	Canada geese	White-Fronted geese	Snows/Blues	Coots	Eagles
Herrington	21	0	21	131	0	0	0	0
Cedar Creek	344	0	344	1557	0	0	1	0
Cumberland	210	6	216	237	0	0	0	1
Dale Hollow	1432	200	1632	314	0	0	0	0
Barren R.	109	0	109	0	0	0	10	1
Green R.	311	131	442	0	0	110	0	0
Taylorsville	39	0	39	0	0	0	0	0
Central OH R.	942	4	946	380	0	0	216	1
Blue Grass	344	0	344	164	0	0	200	0
Licking River South	29	6	35	36	0	0	0	1
Cave Run Lake	104	21	125	87	0	0	4	0
Grayson Lake	7	0	7	3	0	0	0	0
Yatesville Lake	86	21	107	15	0	0	0	1
Ohio River-Ashland to Scioto R.	25	4	29	0	0	0	0	1
Scioto River	205	0	205	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio River (Scioto R. to Licking R.)	1660	61	1721	460	0	1	0	1
Licking River North	18	0	18	190	0	0	0	0
Campbell County Lake	201	0	201	0	0	0	0	0
Kincade Lake	NS	NS	0	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Totals	6087	454	6541	3574	0	111	431	7
	Dabblers	Divers	Total Ducks	Canada geese	White-fronted	Snows/Blues	Coots	Eagles

Notes from Terri Estes.....

The mid-winter waterfowl survey for central KY was conducted on January 5, 2015. The flight was conducted during clear skies with mild to moderate west winds. Temperatures were frigid in morning at 18 degrees F and warmed up slightly to 26 degrees F. Temperatures have been above normal for most of the hunting season. The rainfall has been normal making water available across the landscape. The only area where water was frozen was in shallow ponds and creeks along the Ohio River in Northern KY. The rest of the river and lakes were 100% open. All lakes were at winter pool levels except Barren River Lake and Green River Lake where shallow flats were exposed. Waterfowl numbers were average for this time of year. The most abundant dabbling ducks were mallards (3078). Black ducks (330) were the second most abundant puddle duck with few other puddle ducks observed. Scaup (200) Bufflehead (139) and Goldeneye (2) were the only divers observed. Canada Goose numbers were below average (2,671). There were 3 scoters on Green River Lake and 8 long-tailed ducks on Cumberland Lake.

Notes from Wes Little.....

Green River lakes. A flock of 110 Snow Geese were observed on the shore of Green River Lake. The normal concentrations of Gadwall were not present. Happy hunting!

This is the report for the mid-winter waterfowl survey for northeastern Kentucky conducted on Jan 5, 2015. The flight was conducted in mostly clear to partly cloudy skies, with 5-10 mph west to northwest winds. Temperatures started at 15 degrees and moved to 24 degrees throughout the day. Temperatures have been mild to normal for this hunting season. The season's rainfall has been average and water was available across the landscape. Shallow water was frozen in areas protected by from wind and around vegetation, but open water remained ice free regardless of depth. Cave Run Lake was slightly above winter pool with some water covering the shallow flats. The Ohio river was above normal levels but well within the banks. The Northern Licking river was above normal levels and muddy.

The most abundant dabbling duck was Mallards (1984). Black duck (493) was the second most abundant puddle duck followed by Gadwall (40), with no other dabbling ducks being observed in large numbers. The normal concentrations of Gadwall were not present on Cave Run Lake. Divers were widely scattered. Redhead (50) and Bufflehead (40) were the most abundant diving ducks. There were 955 Canada geese counted total. I hope everyone had a great holiday season. Always, with cold temperatures, please be careful while spending time around water in the great outdoors!!!